

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Arcing contact element (10,18)-for electrical switching off equipment for medium and high tension, particularly for circuit breakers, ~~[[this]]~~ said arcing contacting element configured being intended to be added to a fixed ~~[[ (8) ]]~~ and/or mobile ~~[[ (16) ]]~~ support belonging to a contact assembly of ~~this said~~ switching off equipment, ~~[[the]]~~ said arcing contact element (10,18) being capable of occupying during operation a first an initial position in which [[it]] said arcing contact element is in contact with another contact element (18,10)-as well as a second position in which [[it]] said arcing contact element is separated from this other said another contact element so as to allow interruption of the current in the arcing contact equipment, [[the]] said contact element (10,18) including carbon fibres [[ (26) ]] embedded in a matrix, said matrix comprising a primary matrix formed by impregnating said carbon fibres with carbon in the form of graphite, wherein said primary matrix is impregnated with a plurality of inset spaces filled with electrically conducting material having a resistance lower than 200  $\mu\Omega$ .cm.

~~(30,34) which includes at least one electrically conducting material which has a resistance lower than 200  $\mu\Omega$ .cm characterised by the fact that the said matrix including at least one conducting material also includes carbon in the form of graphite in a primary matrix of the matrix which is present around the carbon fibres, being present in inset spaces defined in said primary matrix.~~

2. (Currently Amended) Element according to claim 1, ~~wherein characterised by the fact that the carbon fibres are (26)-include long fibres arranged according to three-dimensional braiding (28).~~

3. (Currently Amended) Element according to claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that wherein~~ the conducting material which has a resistance lower than 200  $\mu\Omega$ .cm represents a weight of between 10 and 50% of this contact element.

4. (Currently Amended) Element according to claim 3, ~~characterised by the fact that wherein~~ the conducting material which has a resistance lower than 200  $\mu\Omega$ .cm represents a weight of between 20 and 40% of this contact element.

5. (Currently Amended) Element according to claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~  
wherein said ~~at least one~~ electrically conducting material which has a resistance lower than 200  $\mu\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$  is in particulate form and the size of the particles of said conducting material is between 0.1 and 200 micrometers.

6. (Currently Amended) Element according to claim 5, ~~characterised by the fact that~~  
wherein the size of the particles of the conducting material which has a resistance lower than 200  $\mu\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$  is between 1 and 50 micrometers.

7. (Currently Amended) Element according to claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~  
wherein the electrically conducting material is copper.

8. (Currently Amended) Element according to claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~  
wherein the diameter of the carbon fibres ~~[(26)]~~ is between 0.1 and 50 micrometers.

9. (Currently Amended) Element according to claim 8, ~~characterised by the fact that~~  
wherein the diameter of the carbon fibres ~~[(26)]~~ is between 2 and 15 micrometers.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) Contact unit for electrical switching off equipment for medium and high tension, particularly for circuit breakers, ~~including~~ comprising:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ a fixed ~~[(6)]~~ and mobile ~~[(14)]~~ contact device, each device ~~(6,14)~~ being equipped with an arcing contact element ~~(10,18)~~, these two contact elements ~~(10,18)~~ being capable of presenting a first mutual contact position and a second mutual switching off position in which they are separated from each other, characterised by at least one arcing contact element ~~(10,18)~~ being capable of occupying during operation an initial position in which it is in contact with another contact element ~~(18,10)~~ as well as a second position in which it is separated from this other contact element so as to allow interruption of the current in the equipment, ~~[[the]]~~ said

contact element (10,18) including carbon fibres (26) embedded in a matrix (30,34) comprising a primary matrix formed by impregnating said carbon fibres with carbon in the form of graphite, said primary matrix impregnated with a plurality of inset spaces filled with electrically conducting material having a resistance lower than 200  $\mu\Omega$ .cm. ~~which includes at least one electrically conducting material characterised by the fact that the said matrix including at least one conducting material also includes carbon in the form of graphite.~~

14. (Currently Amended) Electric switching off equipment for medium or high tension, in particular circuit breakers, ~~including~~ comprising:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ a switching off chamber [(2)] equipped with a contact assembly, said (10, 18, 22), characterised by this contact assembly being capable of occupying during operation an initial position in which [(it)] said contact assembly is in contact with another contact element (18,10) as well as a second position in which [(it)] said contact assembly is separated from this other said another contact element so as to allow interruption of the current in the equipment, [(the)] said contact element (10,18) including carbon fibres [(26)] embedded in a matrix comprising a primary matrix formed by impregnating said carbon fibres with carbon in the form of graphite, said primary matrix impregnated with a plurality of inset spaces filled with an electrically conducting material having a resistance lower than 200  $\mu\Omega$ .cm. (30,34) ~~which includes at least one electrically conducting material characterised by the fact that the said matrix including at least one conducting material also includes carbon in the form of graphite.~~